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By: Renee D. EastSigned: 1 MAR 2006Date of signature and deposit/transmission: March 17, 2006

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Hong Jiang et al.) Group Art Unit: 3663
Serial No.: 10/774,805)
Filed: February 9, 2004) Confirmation No.: 9249
For: Method and System for Controlling a Transfer Case Clutch to Protect Against Excessive Heat) Examiner: Pipala, Edward J.
) Atty. Docket: 81075405(16350)
)
)

Mail Stop Amendment
 Commissioner for Patents
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RESPONSE

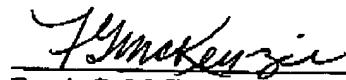
Honorable Sir:

In response to the requirement to elect an invention for examination as set forth in the Office action dated March 9, 2006, invention I, Claims 1-9 and 17-19, are elected to be examined.

The Office Action states that Claims 1-9 and 17-19 are drawn to an system and method of controlling a clutch, and that Claims 10-16 are drawn to a method of digitally controlling a clutch.

Submitted concurrently with this response is a Preliminary Amendment containing Claims 20-32, drawn to a method of controlling a clutch consistent with invention I, the elected invention.

Respectfully submitted,


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Attorney for Applicant(s)

Dated: March 17, 2006
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(Serial No. 10/774,805)

PAGE 2/14 * RCVD AT 3/17/2006 1:55:04 PM [Eastern Standard Time] * SVR:USPTO-EFXRF-3/8 * DNIS:2738300 * CSID:7345429569 * DURATION (mm:ss):04:52

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Honorable Sir:

In response to the Office action dated March 9, 2006, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 2 of this paper.